

B. J. Penn
Director, Industrial Base Capabilities and Readiness

Mr. Penn was appointed Director, Industrial Base Capabilities and Readiness on October 2, 2001. In this position, he is responsible for the Department's policies and plans to ensure existing and future industrial capabilities can meet Defense missions; establishing guidelines and procedures for maintaining and enhancing the DoD industrial base as well as assessing industrial base impacts of acquisition strategies of key programs, supplier base considerations, and offshore production. He also identifies industrial base vulnerabilities and recommends corrective action and oversees OUSD (AT&L) Continuity of Operations planning and execution. Mr. Penn brings to this position over thirty-five years of military and industry experience.



Mr. Penn began his career as a Naval Aviator. He made deployments to Southeast Asia in USS Shangri La, flying the A-3 Skywarrior, and in USS America in the Navy's first EA-6B squadron. He was EA-6B Pilot of the Year in 1972. Significant leadership assignments include: Executive Officer/Commanding Officer VAQ 33, Battalion Officer at the U.S. Naval Academy (including Officer-in-Charge of the Plebe Detail for the class of '83), Air Officer in USS America, Special Assistant to the Chief of Operations, Commanding Officer of NAS North Island, CA., and Deputy Director of the Navy Office of Technology Transfer & Security Assistance. He amassed over 6500 flight hours in sixteen different types of aircraft and 793 carrier landings. Additionally, he has an Airline Transport Pilot License and is Type Rated in the B-707, B-720 and G-4.

Mr. Penn joined the Sector staff of Loral Federal Systems in 1995 as Director, International Business. Primary assignments involved airborne EW and DECM Systems. When Lockheed Martin acquired Loral, he was assigned to the Corporate Staff to develop markets in Central and Eastern Europe. He participated in several aviation and surface development campaigns in the region. In 1998, he transferred to Naval Electronics and Surveillance Systems working Advanced Programs. In this capacity, he supported development of the Interoperability CONOPS for JSF, technology refreshment for the F-16 and development of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and Autonomous Underseas Vehicle efforts and C4ISR initiatives.

Mr. Penn was born and raised in Peru, IN. He received his BS from Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN and his MS from The George Washington University, Washington, DC. He has also received certificates in Aerospace Safety from the University of Southern California and in National Security for Senior Officials from the Kennedy School, Harvard University.